

Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 SAB-01 SSM-03 EUR-12 AF-08

ORM-02 /103 W

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R 220907Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO RUEHCJYSECSTATE WASHDC 6033

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

*AMEMBASSY CARIO 972

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3992

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORC, XF, KU, LE, OWEL

SUBJ: GOK APPARENTLY DISAPPROVES PALESTINIAN FUND DRIVE

REF: KUWAIT 3890

1. RECENT REPORTING INDICATED THAT PLO IN KUWAIT HAD PLANNED PUBLIC FUND DRIVE IN KUWAIT AUGUST 20 - 27 WITH HELP OF KUWAITI "POPULAR ORGANIZATION," IN ORDER TO BENEFIT PALESTINIAN WAR EFFORT IN LEBANON. ALSO, AS REPORTED REFTTEL, PLO REQUESTED ARAB RED CRESCENT/RED CROSS CONFERENCE IN KUWAIT FOR PERMISSION TO SOLICIT FUNDS OF PUBLIC IN ARAB COUNTRIES FOR PALESTINIAN RED CRESCENT.

2. IT APPEARS THAT GOK HAS TURNED DOWN WAR EFFORT FUND DRIVE. AUGUST 19 EDITORIAL IN AL SIYASAH CRITICIZES
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KUWAIT'S MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND LABOR FOR REFUSING

TO ALLOW SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE COLLECTED.

3. HOWEVER, QUESTION OF PUBLIC SOLICITATION FOR PALESTINIAN RED CRESCENT APPARENTLY STILL OPEN IN KUWAIT. WHILE GOK MINISTER OF HEALTH REPORTEDLY HAS ANNOUNCED (AL SIYASH, AUGUST 18) THAT "ALL RECOMMENDATIONS OF RED CRESCENT CONFERENCE WILL BE TRANSLATED INTO ACTION" AND WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR URGENT CONSIDERATION OF GOK COUNCEL OF MINISTERS, THE CONFERENCE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY "RECOMMEND" PUBLIC SOLICITATION. ALSO, GOK PAST EXPERIENCE WITH PUBLIC SOLICITATIONS ON BEHALF OF PALESTINIANS HAS NOT BEEN PLEASANT; THERE HAVE BEEN CHARGES OF FRAUD AND SOME EMBEZZLEMENT LITIGATION. ALSO, PUBLIC SOLICITATION OF FUNDS IS GENERALLY DISCOURAGED IN KUWAIT--DOOR TO DOOR SOLICITING IS UNHEARD OF, PRIVATE SOLICITATION DISCOURAGED, AND CHARITY FUND-RAISERS ARE OUTLAWED.
MAESTRONE

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